



The NUNES Report

Nunes focuses federal attention on drug war

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Quick Facts

In September and October, Rep. Nunes wrote to 3,957 constituents in response to their inquires.

Year to date, Rep. Nunes has responded to 14,914 constituents via the U.S. Mail.

Furthermore, since Rep. Nunes was elected to Congress he has responded to 43,013 constituent letters via the U.S. Mail.

Joins second committee hearing to educate fellow lawmakers

The federal law enforcement coalition in charge of tracking down and dismantling high-level drug trafficking operations in the Central Valley will get an additional \$550,000 this year, Rep. Devin Nunes announced.

The funds are going to the Central Valley High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) based in Fresno and includes law enforcement officers from Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare counties. The funds are being made available through the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

"HIDTA is our frontline defense against organized drug trafficking in the Central Valley," said Rep. Nunes, R-Tulare. "I am very pleased this hard-working and innovative group is getting the additional resources they need to protect our communities against the scourge of drug dealers."

In 2004, the Central Valley HIDTA conducted about 864 investigations, 314 more than it conducted in



Each year, local, state and federal law enforcement agents remove tens of thousands of marijuana plants growing in illegal gardens on federal land. Rep. Nunes is seeking additional federal help to eliminate the problem.

2003. It seized almost 192,000 marijuana plants, compared to about 19,000 in 2003, and made more than 1,100 drug-related arrests.

Earlier this year, the Central Valley HIDTA received \$2.2 million in federal funds to combat marijuana

In November, Rep. Nunes joined a National Parks Subcommittee hearing to help focus the attention of his colleagues on the problem of drug production on federal lands.

"We are fighting a guerilla war with drug cartels in our own backyard," Rep. Nunes

said. "This is not a problem we can address one marijuana garden at a time. We need a proactive battle plan that destroys this enemy once and for all. These gardens and the bandits that tend them are a threat to the safety of visitors and employees on federal lands, as well as an environmental disaster to the pristine lands and the communities around them."

The hearing was held in Washington, D.C.

The hearing was the second of its kind focused on

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Nunes hails passage of endangered species reform

Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Tulare, hailed the passage of the Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act (TERSA), which reforms and improves the decades-long ineffectiveness of the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

“Any program that has a success rate of less than 1% needs to be reevaluated, and I believe that TESRA takes the necessary and proper steps to remedy these inadequacies,” Rep. Nunes said. “When children are not allowed to fly kites on the beach due to the possibility that a bird might live in the area, one can clearly see that the outdated ESA has deviated from its original intent.”

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) was passed by Congress in 1973 with the intent to protect and preserve species that have been identified as threatened or endangered. Over the past 30 years, more than 1,250 domestic species have been listed for protection; however less than one percent of these species have actually been “recovered.” Not only has ESA fallen well short of its goals, its misguided implementation has left many farmers, ranchers, and small businesses just as endangered. When plans for U.C. Merced, the only University of California campus in the San Joaquin Valley, were delayed because of fairy shrimp, one could clearly see that the outdated ESA had deviated from its original intent. Furthermore, when environmentalists place microscopic organisms above the needs of farmers, on whom we depend for our food,



Rep. Devin Nunes supports an effort in Congress to update the Endangered Species Act. After 30 years on the books, the law has failed to achieve its goals and a new approach is needed.

something has gone terribly wrong.

The protection of species needs to take into account all information, including peer-reviewed science and the additional social and economic impacts on our communities involved as such.

“Congress should update and modernize the ESA to strengthen its results for species recovery by turning conflict into cooperation. The Threatened and Endangered Species and Recovery Act does just that, and for this reason I supported it,” Nunes said.

H.R. 3824 will begin to solve the long-standing problems of species recovery by creating recovery teams and requiring recovery plans within two years of listing. These plans will require the identification of lands important to the conservation and recovery of spe-

cies. In addition, this legislation will not only strengthen scientific standards, but will also create bigger roles for state and local governments to get involved, relieving some of the burdens placed on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The endangered species reform law will restore sound science to the species and critical habitat designation processes and reduce the burden on landowners who have their property restricted for conservation purposes.

Specifically, the bill strengthens scientific standards, reduces bureaucratic red tape, and justly compensates private property owners who have had their land confiscated or rendered useless under the ESA passed 30 years ago.

Nunes denounces 'under God' ruling by judge



Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Tulare, denounced the ruling handed down by U.S. District Judge Lawrence Karlton of the Eastern District Court in Sacramento that bars the use of the phrase "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance.

"Judge Karlton has shown time and time again that he has lost touch with reality and can not properly apply the law," Rep. Nunes said. "By banning use of the phrase 'under God' in the Pledge of Allegiance, as well as supporting 16 years of worthless litigation in a

separate lawsuit that seeks to undermine the economic viability of the San Joaquin Valley, it has become apparent that Judge Karlton needs to be reigned in."

Judge Karlton was appointed to the federal court in 1979 by President Jimmy Carter.

In 2003, Rep. Nunes was one of the first members of the House of Representatives to co-sponsor legislation that would preserve the phrase "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Nunes appoints Visalia woman for White House conference

Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Tulare, announced that he appointed Tulare County native Berniece Doan of Visalia as a delegate to the White House Conference on Aging.

The White House conference is held once every 10 years in Washington, D.C. to make aging policy recommendations to the President and Congress, and to assist the public and private sectors in promoting dignity, health, independence and economic security of current and future generations of older persons. The 2005 White House Conference on Aging occurs as the first

wave of the baby boom generation prepares for retirement, creating an important opportunity to creatively assess aging in America and improve the lives of older Americans.

"When considering the right person for this duty, Berniece immediately came to mind. She has been a bright, energetic and generous member of the Tulare County community for many years," Rep. Nunes said. "I know she will be an important voice for the Central Valley and a real asset in the discussion during the conference."

Doan graduated from the

College of the Sequoias nursing program and worked as a registered nurse for 25 years. She continues to volunteer her time at Kaweah Delta District Hospital. She is the secretary of the local non-profit Donald E. Wahlen, MD Youth Foundation and a member of the Fresno Symphony League and local art organizations.

Doan will be one of 1,200 delegates at the conference in December. The delegates will vote on resolutions and develop implementation strategies to be presented to the President and Congress to help guide national aging policies.

Quick Facts

In September and October, Rep. Nunes organized tours of the U.S. Capitol, Library of Congress, Supreme Court, Kennedy Center, National Archives, Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and Mt. Vernon for 91 constituents.

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the problem as it relates to federal lands in California. The first was held in October 2003 by the House Committee on Government Reform, in which Rep. Nunes participated. Since then, Rep. Nunes has fought for addi-

tional federal resources to address the problem. However, recent changes within the Department of Homeland Security have hamstrung some eradication efforts.

Rep. Nunes plans to call

for a renewed effort, possibly coordinating local and federal law enforcement agencies in a more effective plan.

Nunes votes to improve fuel supply

Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Tulare, voted to streamline and improve the nation's fuel supply by passing the Gasoline for America's Security (GAS) 2005.

"Busy families depend on an abundant and reliable fuel supply. I am glad we have taken a significant step in securing their needs for the future," Rep. Nunes said.

"Today, we have broken the 30-year stranglehold radical environmentalists have held on our nation's fuel needs. For too long, Americans have been prevented from maintaining and expanding the fuel infrastructure to keep up with our growing population."

Highlights of the GAS Act:

- ◆ Encourages new



refineries to increase supply;

- ◆ Promotes new pipelines to get new crude oil and refined product to consumers at lower prices;
- ◆ Limits "boutique fuels" that have propped up gasoline process by artificially limiting supply;
- ◆ Promotes conservation through

carpooling and a fuel-efficiency awareness campaign;

- ◆ Bans price gouging in gasoline or diesel fuel sales; and
- ◆ Requires a Federal Trade Commission (FTC) study into credit card company processing fees, which may inflate consumer costs.

In conjunction with the Energy Policy Act of 2005, the Gasoline for America's Security Act of 2005 addresses important issues to reduce our dependence on foreign sources of refined petroleum products and increase domestic production and conservation efforts.

Quick Facts

In September and October, Rep. Nunes helped 80 constituents overcome problems with government agencies.

For the year, the Congressman has directly solved cases for 420 constituents and is currently assisting 520 others.

Furthermore, since Rep. Nunes was elected to Congress he has directly solved cases for 1,400 constituents.

Nunes hosts night for service academy candidates

Rep. Devin Nunes hosted his third annual Academy Night in Clovis for students interested in attending one of four U.S. Service Academies.

The event featured representatives from each of the academies and detailed information about the academies and application process.

"Our service academies are producing this nation's next generation of great leaders. I'm happy to say there are many outstanding candidates right here in Fresno and Tulare counties who are qualified to join those ranks," the congressman said.

Rep. Nunes formed a five-member selection committee made up of Fresno



More than 100 parents and students turned out in Clovis for Rep. Devin Nunes' third annual Academy Night.

and Tulare county community members to interview candidates and make recommendations to the congressman for each academy.

There are four U.S. Service Academies that require a congressional nomination or a military affiliated nomi-

nation in order to attend. They include: U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, U.S. Military Academy at West Point, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, NY, and the U.S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, CO.